

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 2, please replace the second complete paragraph with the following paragraph:

AB --A less expensive manufacturing process of a sieve suitable for depth filtration provides for metal filaments to be thermally sintered on a wire mesh before the planar structural element is rolled (see also NL-A-8 105 081). A planar structural element suitable for depth filtration is produced by this method also, however this has the disadvantage that the filaments cannot be joined in absolutely homogeneous manner, which causes fluctuations in the density distribution. As a result, the sieve cannot be aligned optimally, which in turn leads to compromises in determining the maximum pore size and filter area available for use.--

On page 2, after the third complete paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

AB --DE OS 1 961 050 describes a planar structural element made from metal wires, in which internal fibres are arranged between metal wires, either twisted into a strand or as monofilaments. This promotes particular coarseness of the fibre surface, which is caused by the twisting of individual monofilaments or by the roughening of the surface of a single monofilament. However, such a

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IN THE CLAIMS:

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